

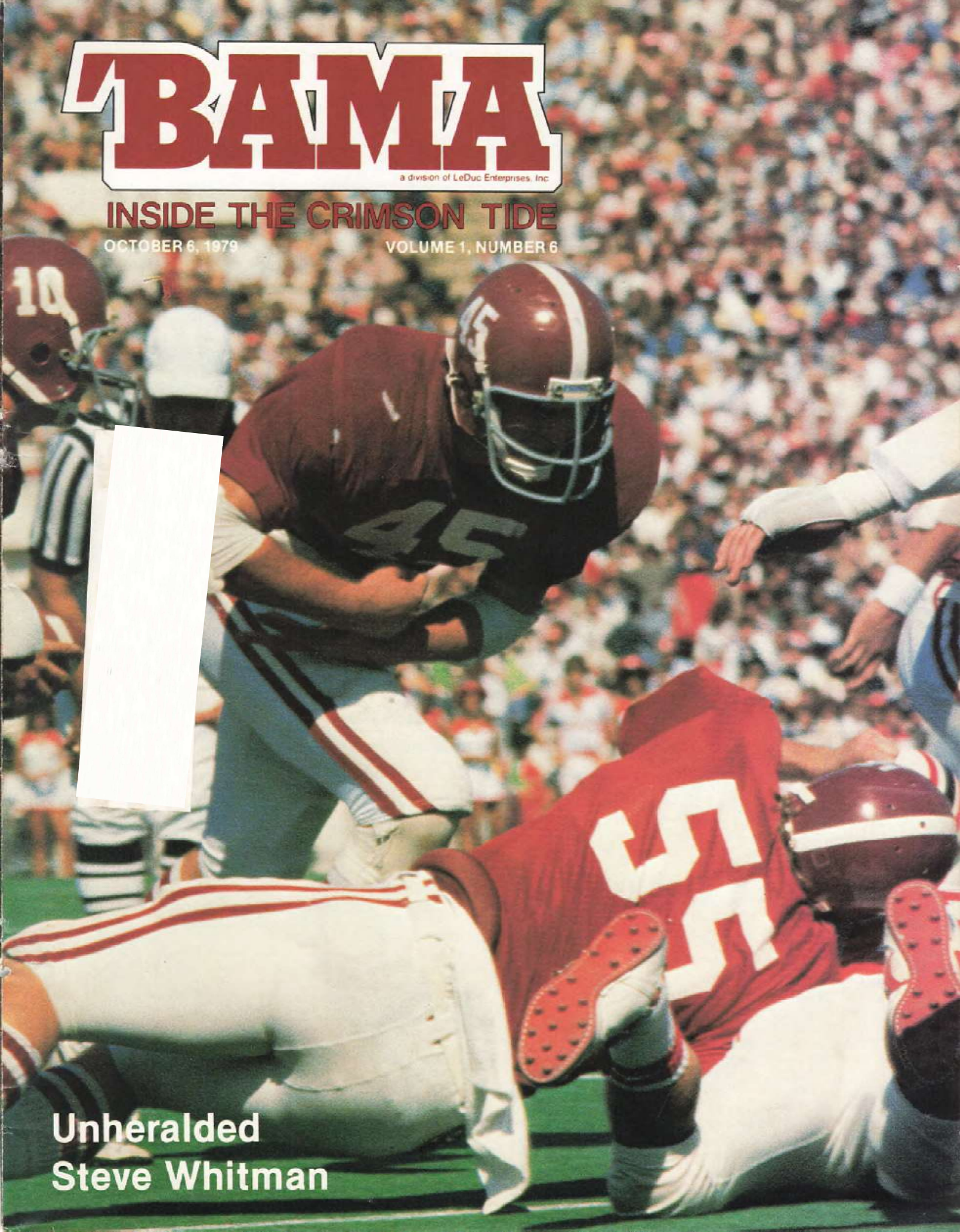
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INSIDE THE CRIMSON TIDE

OCTOBER 6, 1979

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 6



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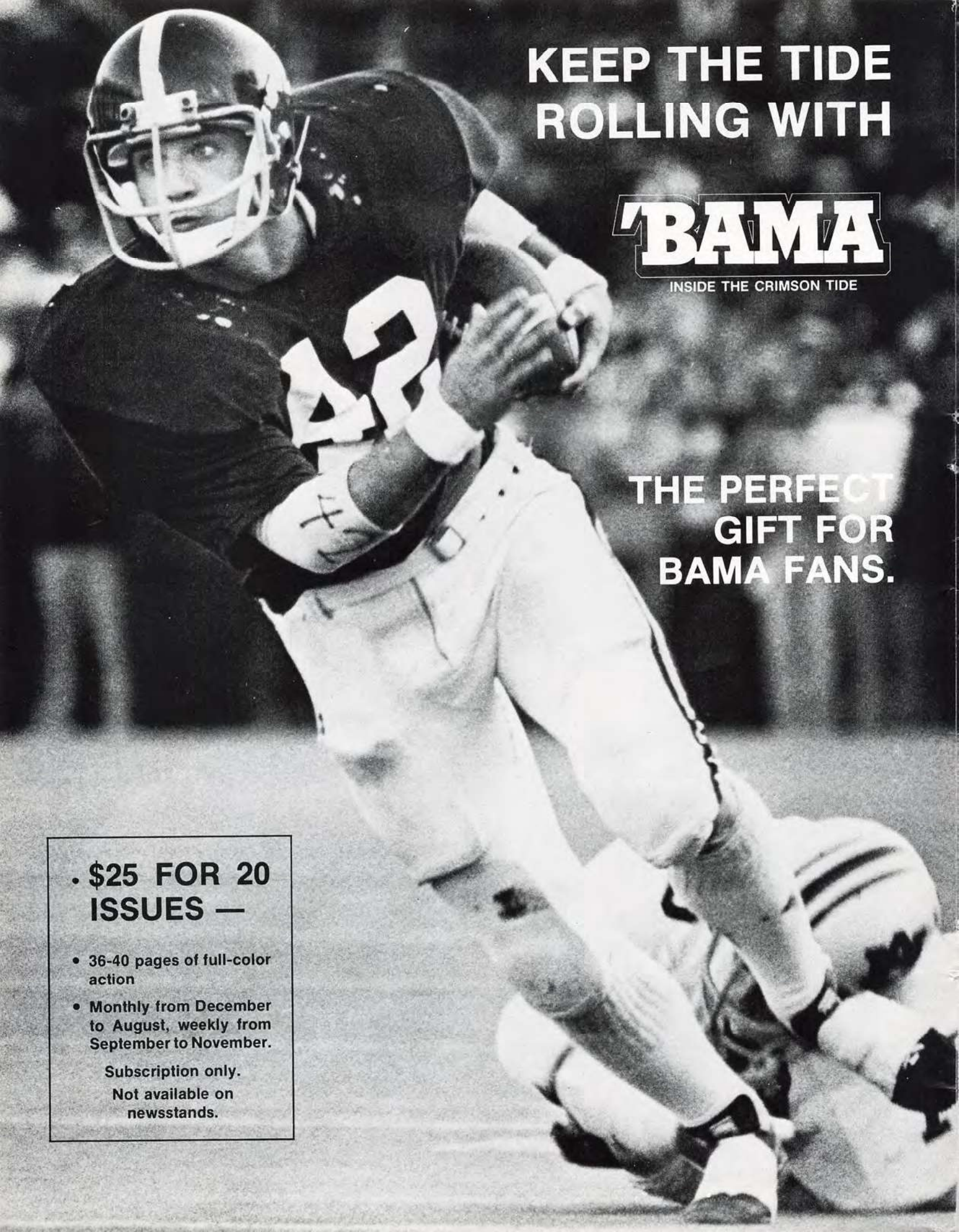
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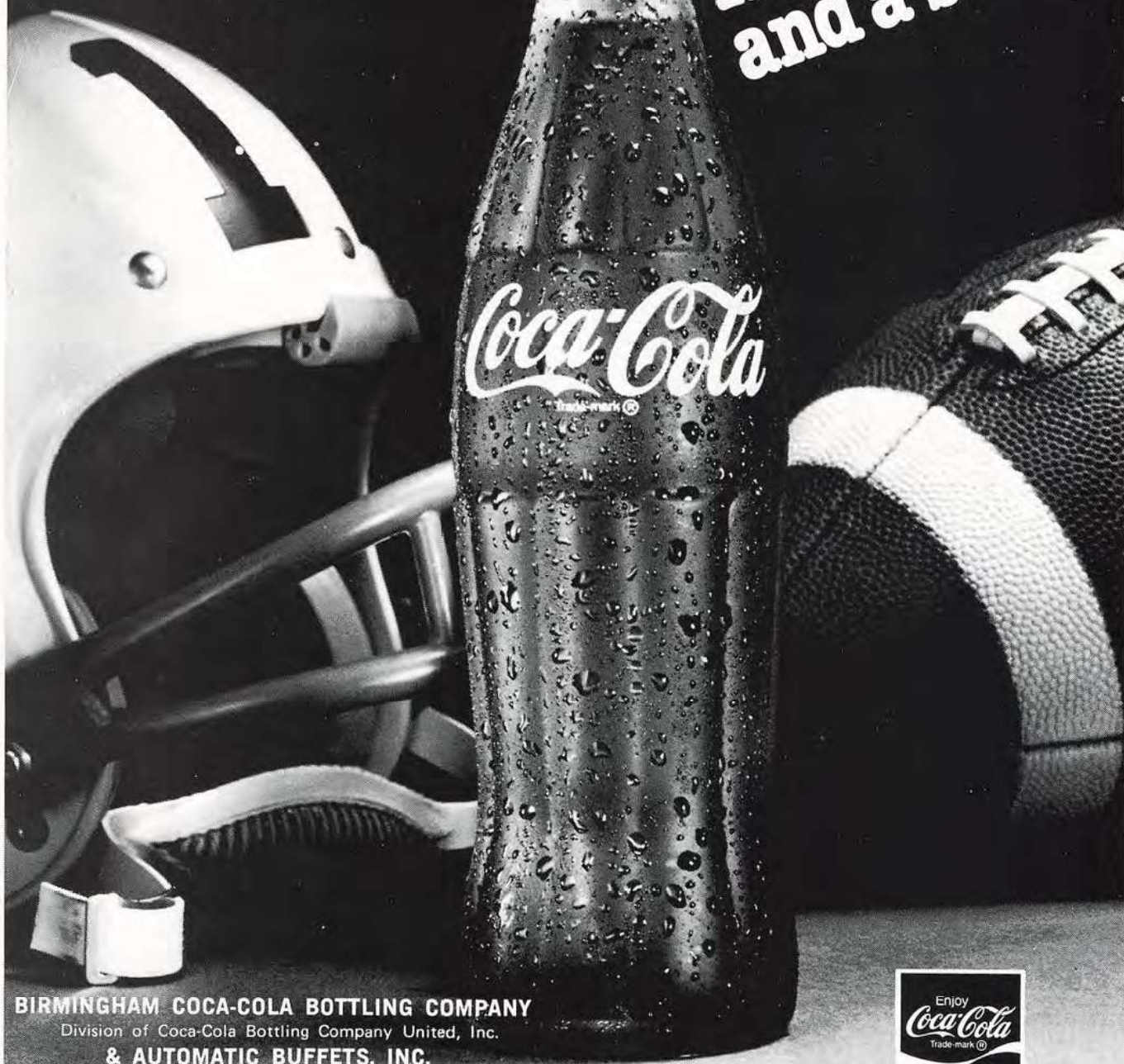
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INSIDE THE CRIMSON TIDE

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All photos courtesy of the Tuscaloosa News and the University of Alabama.



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TIDE GOT ONE OF TWO WINS IT NEEDED SATURDAY

by Kirk McNair

By mid-afternoon Saturday in Nashville, conversation in the Alabama section of the stands at Dudley Field had turned from the Alabama rout of Vanderbilt to the upcoming game. Not Alabama's upcoming game, which is Wichita State, but LSU's upcoming game, which was Southern Cal in Baton Rouge.

And about the only bad news for those in the Bama camp Saturday was that LSU was unable to hold on to defeat Southern Cal and thrust the Crimson Tide into the number one spot in the national polls.

While Alabama may not be ranked first, the Tide is certainly playing championship caliber football. Coach Bryant refuses to compare the 1979 team to last year's national championship squad, primarily because the level of competition for this

year's team is not up to last year's. But there is no denying that Alabama is some kind of football machine.

It was 66-3 in favor of Alabama Saturday as the Southeastern Conference schedule got under way with the traditional have against the traditional have not. Alabama now leads the series 36-17-4 and rarely has the difference been so apparent as it was Saturday.

Prior to the game, Vanderbilt head coach George MacIntyre said "I think it's a great opportunity to be able to play the top team in the country." Following the game he was asked if anything had caught his eye that made him happy. "Yes," he said, "I was happy when I saw it was over."

Major Ogilvie, who played only 16

downs against Vanderbilt (the rest of the first offense played 23), looked across the field at the Vandy bench late in the game and said "I'd hate to be on that side getting beaten like this. I can't imagine playing football anywhere but Alabama."

It was a day in which coach Bryant was able to give a great deal of playing time to Tiders who are a part of the future. The only man of the 60 who were dressed for the game who did not see action was Tim Travis, who was able to play if needed but who also needed to rest a recuperating ankle injury. Backup offensive tackle Eddie McCombs is nursing an injury and didn't make the trip. Billy Jackson, who has a slight hamstring pull, made the trip but did not dress for the game. By the end of the first quarter Alabama had sent 54 men into the game.

Alabama coaches were worried prior to the game that Alabama was not taking Vanderbilt seriously enough. And despite the score, most Tide coaches felt that the team had played better the week before in beating Baylor than in the win over Vanderbilt. Bama coaches know that they can't fool Tide players about the quality of the opposition. The Alabama players watch the films of the opposing teams and know when they are far inferior to the Tide. The goal then is to have the players improve and not play down close to the level of the competition. In some cases Saturday Bama coaches felt that the Tide players did not improve.

Alabama starters had all but an off day Saturday against Vandy. "I just put my sun visor on, watched the game, and rooted for the guys we had in there after the first defense came out," said Gary DeNiro.

It has become the Alabama scheme to play a large number of players. That accomplishes several goals. For one thing it

Alabama was really able to go to its bench in Saturday's 66-3 rout of Vanderbilt with fourth team freshman quarterback Micheal Landrum directing the Tide in the fourth quarter.

Third team fullback John Hill was Bama's leading rusher against Vanderbilt Saturday and scored his first touchdown for the Crimson Tide with this 14-yard burst.





builds morale when all the players know that if they contribute in practice they are going to have the opportunity to participate in the game. "I know when I was in that place, not starting, I wanted to get in there, and playing at Alabama you get to," said DeNiro. It's also the best way to build quality, experienced depth for future games. Additionally, the starters are rested in case they are needed in the fourth quarter, and protected from injury if they don't have to play once the game is won.

The game provided a chance for experimentation in a number of areas. In the kicking game the Tide was able to work in different players at kicking (three different men kicked extra points) and holding. Quarterback Alan Gray saw duty at split end. He's been practicing at split end part of the past two weeks in addition to his work at quarterback. Buddy Holt, who has played a half dozen positions in his career at Alabama, worked at split end against Vanderbilt. Bob Cayavec, who has been a tight end and offensive tackle, worked at noseguard for the second straight week, although he practiced primarily as an offensive lineman last week.

There's not a great deal to analyze in a 66-3 game. Alabama was clearly superior in all phases of the game, which was expected by anyone who follows the sport. "Basically they did everything we thought they would," said Bama defensive end Wayne Hamilton. "They did a good job on the quick out pass and had a good punter," added Wayne, finding something nice to say rather than saying nothing at all. "But I wish they hadn't scored those three points."

Vandy reached Bama territory only three times, including late in the first quarter when the Commodores cashed their points on an early second period field goal of 47 yards. It could hardly be called a fluke since the man who kicked it, Mike Woodard, had a 52-yarder last year as a freshmen.

But if there is a key to Bama success it is the offense. And if there is a key to the success of the offense it is the offensive line. "I don't think anyone can stop our offense," agreed Hamilton. "They are awesome," echoed DiNiro. "I hate going against them in practice."

It's evidence of the domination of the offensive line against Vanderbilt in that all starters graded 90 per cent or higher, led by Dwight Stephenson at a phenomenal 97 per cent. A friend of coach Bryant's recently related that he had read an article stating that Stephenson was the third best college center in the country. "I sure



Vanderbilt's Luscious High finds himself with nowhere to go as Bama defenders Robbie Jones (97) and Curtis McGriff move in.



Bama fullback Steve Whitman is easier to catch than he is to bring down, as this Vanderbilt defender finds out.

haven't seen the other two," retorted coach Bryant.

The Alabama line is a primary key to the success of the Bama running backs. Speed in the Crimson Tide backfield is not a strong point. There are probably nine teams in the SEC that line up at least one faster man behind the quarterback than Bama's fastest. But the offensive line play, along with depth that keeps fresh backs working against opposing defenses and the fact that Bama backs are so well-coached in all phases of football, make Bama's ball carriers the league's most effective.

Saturday against Vanderbilt the Tide used a freshman offensive backfield almost the entire fourth quarter—Micheal (that's the way he spells it, not Michael) Landrum at quarterback, Charley Williams (redshirted freshman) at fullback and Ken Simon and Jeff Fagan at halfbacks. Joe Jones worked with that unit a bit at halfback and John Hill, who was the game's leading rusher despite being the number three fullback, in the middle.

Hill thought he had scored his first Alabama touchdown late in the third quarter, but the official spotted the ball inches short of the goalline. Then, to add

insult to injury, the official said, "You're not going to score this touchdown, number forty-four. Your jersey is torn. Get out of here." John rushed to the sidelines for a change, hoping perhaps to get back before Bama put it in, but before he could get back to action Joe Jones had scored the first of his 14 points (two touchdowns and two point after kicks). However, Hill came back with a bullish 14-yard run with 30 seconds left in the game to score his first Bama TD. "Since I got the score, it was funny about getting put out of the game to change my jersey, but it made me nervous at the time," John laughed later. A key block on his scoring run was thrown by quarterback-turned-split end Gray.

They don't call 66-3 a laughter for nothing and there were numerous light jokes along the Bama sidelines late in the game, as well as in the dressing room following the game. "I don't care if you call me or not, I'm not going into the game," Bama assistant trainer Henry "Sang" Lyda told Tide assistant coach Jack Rutledge.

Tim Clark, who made two outstanding catches, also missed a couple, including one that he tried to catch over his head

when he was 15 yards beyond the nearest Vanderbilt defender. "Timmy," said Bama assistant coach Sylvester Croom, "you could have turned around and fair caught that one."

An Alabama aide was seen leaving the Bama dressing room with a copy of former President Gerald Ford's book, which Mr. Ford had given his longtime friend, coach Bryant. "You've had that book in the wrong dressing room," said a Tide fan. The name of the book: "A Time To Heal."

Barry Smith, whose only duty the past three years has been to snap the football on punts and placekicks (and who is probably the best in the nation at his craft), said "I figure I'm the leading assist man on the team the past three years. I spent a lot of time today looking through my legs, and that's the way I like it when it's for extra points."

Once Barry wasn't sent in following a touchdown, and the Vanderbilt fans sent up a howl. For the second Nashville game in a row coach Bryant called for a two point conversion following a touchdown when Vandy fans figured Bama had enough points. "I don't really care what they think, because I don't play for



Alabama caused and recovered four Vanderbilt fumbles Saturday, including this one by John Mauro, to help the Tide sink the Commodores.

ALABAMA STATISTICS VS. VANDERBILT

RUSHING	Att.	Gain	Lost	Net	TD	Long
Hill	10	87	0	87	1	22
Shealy	4	86	11	75	2	64
Jacobs	4	71	0	71	0	51
J. Jones	8	38	1	37	2	10
Whitman	5	34	0	34	1	13
Williams	5	34	0	34	0	10
Ogilvie	6	33	0	33	1	9
Haney	5	32	0	32	0	14
Nix	7	29	3	26	1	9
Simon	4	12	0	12	0	7
Gray	2	10	0	10	0	8
Ferguson	2	8	0	8	0	8
Fagan	4	9	1	8	0	6
Landrum	4	6	2	4	1	3
BAMA TOTALS	69	489	18	471	9	64
VANDY TOTALS	34	144	39	105	0	31

SCORE BY QUARTERS	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Final
Alabama	14	18	13	21	66
Vanderbilt	0	3	0	0	3

SCORING

Alabama -- Shealy, 65 run (McElroy kick)
 Alabama -- Ogilvie, 8 run (McElroy kick)
 Vanderbilt -- FG Woodard, 47
 Alabama -- Shealy, 19 run (Ogilvie pass from Shealy)
 Alabama -- FG McElroy, 21
 Alabama -- Nix, 1 run (McElroy kick)
 Alabama -- Whitman, 3 run (kick failed)
 Alabama -- Jones, 1 run (McElroy kick)
 Alabama -- Jones, 3 run (Clark kick)
 Alabama -- Landrum, 3 run (Jones kick)
 Alabama -- Hill, 14 run (Jones kick)

PASSING	Att-Comp-Int	Yards	TD	Long
Shealy	4- 4 - 0	78	0	26
Jacobs	4- 2 - 0	39	0	22
Landrum	2- 1 - 0	13	0	13
Gray	1- 0 - 0	0	0	0
BAMA TOTALS	11- 7 - 0	130	0	26
VANDY TOTALS	27- 15 - 1	95	0	14

RECEIVING	No.	Yards	TD	Long
Pugh	4	78	0	26
Clark	2	39	0	22
Gray	1	13	0	13

PUNTING	No.	Yards	Avg.	Long
Umphrey	5	180	36.0	48
VANDY TOTALS	9	385	42.8	58

ALL RETURNS	Punts No.	Yds.	Kickoffs No.	Yds.	Int'l'ns No.	Yds.
Ogilvie	1	16	1	13		
Coley	2	8	1	43		
Smith					1	0
BAMA TOTALS	3	24	2	56	1	0
VANDY TOTALS	1	3	8	167	0	0

TEAM STATISTICS	BAMA	VANDY
First Downs	27	10
Rushing	20	7
Passing	7	3
Penalty	0	0
Total Offensive Plays	80	61
Total Net Yards	601	200
Average gain per play	7.5	3.3
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	4-4
Penalties-Yards	1-5	6-30
Time of Possession	36:04	23:56

Vanderbilt," said coach Bryant. "But the fact is, we have a chart (drawn up by former Tide assistant Louis Campbell) that tells us when to go for one and when to go for two when we're ahead or behind by under 30 points. It's a simple mathematical formula based on how many times various types of scores can overcome the lead." One of the reasons coach Bryant is the best ever at his trade is that he does the right thing at the right time. Always. Bama didn't need that extra point then as it turned out, but the Tide might have. More important, a time will come when Alabama will need to make that decision correctly and you can rest assured that coach Bryant will.

Travis being unable to play thrust soph Bart Krout into his first starting role and, although he was never the target of a pass, the former consensus prep All-America had an outstanding game blocking. He was particularly noticeable getting rid of two Vanderbilt defenders, one on each of Steadman Shealey's two touchdown runs.

Shealy's first scoring jaunt of 64 yards came on Bama's second offensive play of the game. Steadman made a very nice fake to fullback Steve Whitman in the middle, found himself at left end with no Vandy defender assigned to him and started running for holes, going back across the middle and eventually down

COACH BRYANT ON BAMA



"This is the most wonderful group of young men you could ever ask to be around. They are not selfish and they have that oneness, the type oneness where they enjoy being around one another. By not selfish I mean that we didn't have a bunch of backs around pouting Saturday because they weren't playing. They were standing on the sidelines rooting for their buddies. When you have that, you are on your way to having a good team.

"Everything worked to our favor and against Vanderbilt. It got hot out there and that probably worked to our favor because I think Vanderbilt got tired.

"More impressive than the score was the hustle we had. We didn't tackle as well as last week, but we had only one penalty and no turnovers. If you can do that, kick, cover kicks and play a little defense you ought to win.

"I'm glad we got out of here with a win. I would have settled for one point before the game. I was worried before

this game, just like I'm worried before all of them.

"I'm glad we got to play a lot of people. We have a team concept at Alabama and we try to play a lot of people. We don't just throw them in anywhere. We try to place them where they are best suited, based on our needs.

"We did pretty much what we wanted to do out there on the field and I don't know how much we got out of it. Everything we tried worked well for us.

"I can't compare this year's team with last year's team because at this time last year we had played three of the best teams in America and we also had more speed and more skill at some positions. I can't even compare us to last week because we got whipped out there a couple of times against Vanderbilt. I still don't know how good we are.

"We have room for improvement and we've got to improve if we're going to win."

the right sidelines to put Bama ahead for good two and half minutes into the game.

Last year Bama led wire-to-wire in only three games—Tennessee, Virginia Tech and Mississippi State. This year the Tide has not been close to trailing in a game. The performance by Shealy was another fine one, and backup men Don Jacobs and Alan Gray appear stronger each outing. Even Landrum, who works at the helm of the scout team rather than on Alabama plays during practice, ran the wishbone reasonably well, taking the Tide to two touchdowns—including one he scored himself on a three-yard keeper.

It had to be encouraging to the coaching staff that Bama had only one five-yard penalty and no turnovers in the game. The fact that four different quarterbacks were calling signals and handling the football makes that a particularly significant mark. On the other hand, Vandy gave up four fumbles (recoveries by Mike Pitts, Joe Beazley, Randy Scott and Wayne Hamilton) and had one pass intercepted.

The interception was turned in by Bobby Smith. Smith made an excellent play to make the theft, but oddly it probably cost Alabama a touchdown. If Bobby hadn't made a fine break for the football, stretched out, and made a fingertip grab, it's almost certain that speedy freshman cornerback Ken Coley would have taken the ball on the dead run with nothing but Dudley Field AstroTurf between him and the goalline. Only 37 seconds remained in the first half when Smith made the interception at the Vandy 43 and the Tide was unable to get any points before intermission.

In addition to his play at halfback in the secondary, Coley had a fine game returning kicks. Ken was a quarterback in high school, as were Tide defensive backs Tommy Wilcox, Jim Bob Harris, Bobby Smith, Benny Perrin, Jerrill Sprinkle and Ricky Tucker. Coley played for former Bama star Bobby Johns at Erwin High School in Birmingham. Last fall he was honored by the Birmingham Touchdown Club as Player of the Week the same night that club honored coach Bryant on his 65th birthday. The array of stars that showed up for that gala occasion probably didn't hurt in the recruiting of Ken.

Bama did a good job of not looking past Vanderbilt as the Tide ran its record to 3-0 overall and 1-0 in SEC play. Now it's back out of the conference again and another opportunity to prove that this Alabama team can avoid looking past an out-matched opponent. Tickets are available. And while you probably aren't interested in seeing Wichita State, Bama is well worth watching.★



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ALABAMA DEPTH CHART VS. VANDERBILT

Here is a depth chart of the Alabama players who performed against Vanderbilt Saturday with starters listed first and no one listed at more than one position although a few played more than one spot. Bama used 59 men in the game, including nine redshirted freshmen and seven true freshmen. There were 31 on offense, 25 on defense, and three on kicking teams.

OFFENSE

Split End: Keith Pugh, Tim Clark
 Left Tackle: Buddy Aydelette, Vince Cowell
 Left Guard: Mike Brock, Scott Allison Dan Holcombe
 Center: Dwight Stephenson, Joe Robbins
 Right Guard: Vince Boothe, Gary Bramblett
 Right Tackle: Jim Bunch, Wiley Barnes, Bill Searcey
 Tight End: Bart Krout, Larry Brown, Buddy Holt
 Quarterback: Steadman Shealy, Don Jacobs, Alan Gray
 Micheal Landrum
 Left Halfback: Mitch Ferguson, Joe Jones, Kenny Simon
 Right Halfback: Major Ogilvie, Mark Nix, James Haney, Jeff Fagan
 Fullback: Steve Whitman, Charlie Williams, John Hill

DEFENSE

Left End: Gary DeNiro, Wayne Hamilton, Mike Pitts
 Left Tackle: Byron Braggs, Joe Beazley
 Middle Guard: Warren Lyles, Curtis McGriff, Bob Cayavec
 Right Tackle: David Hannah, Scott Homan
 Right End: E. J. Junior, John Mauro
 Strongside Linebacker: Randy Scott, Ricky Rozzell
 Weakside Linebacker: Thomas Boyd, Robbie Jones
 Left Halfback: Don McNeal, Jeremiah Castille
 Right Halfback: Mike Clements, Ken Coley
 Strong Safety: Tommy Wilcox, Bobby Smith
 Safety: Ricky Tucker, Jim Bob Harris, Benny Perrin

SPECIALTY TEAMS

Punter: Woody Umphrey
 Placekicker: Alan McElroy
 Snapper: Barry Smith

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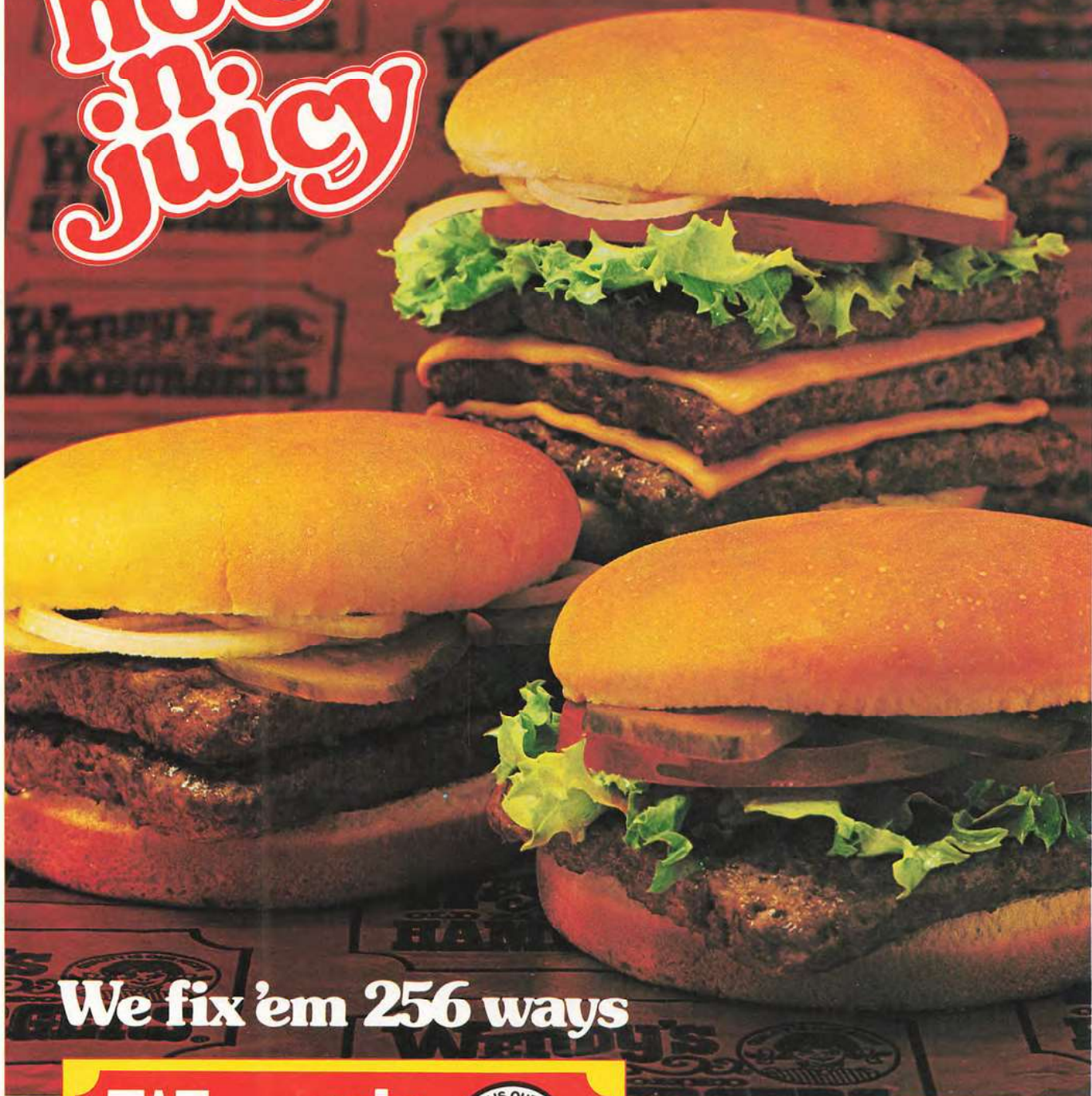


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MORE THAN SELLING TICKETS

by Kirk McNair

When does football season begin? If you are the Athletics Business Manager for the University of Alabama, it begins about the second week of January.

Most Crimson Tide fans would be more than happy to watch a 51-week season of games, but there's much more than just the contests that go into a season. C.D. Tatum, who has been Alabama's Athletics Business Manager since 1973, is a most important cog in the Bama football machine.

Among his duties in that capacity is Director of Ticket Sales, and most people think of that function first when thinking of Mr. Tatum. While very important, the tickets are only a part of his duties.

Athletics at the University of Alabama is fun and games, but it is also big business, to the tune of about \$4 million per year. "That's a lot of money coming in, but just about all of it goes out, too," reports Mr. Tatum. "And, of course, it all goes through this office, coming and going."

There's a relatively simple explanation for the cost of doing business in big time athletics, the same one that makes your life more difficult day by day: inflation.

"Two years ago we chartered a plane to Baton Rouge for \$7,200," notes Mr. Tatum. "This year we finally got a plane a few weeks ago and they said the cost would be about \$17,500, but that the price could go up because of fuel adjustment. By the time the contract came in the price had already gone to \$18,985. And at that we were lucky to get the plane. It has become increasingly difficult to find charter aircraft. Remember, I started looking into this about January 10th, but the airlines just don't have the planes to provide charter service. We would like to go to Baton Rouge early in the evening after practice in Tuscaloosa Friday. The airplane won't be able to pick us up though until about 10:30 Friday night."

And it's not going to get any easier in the future. "If it's this difficult for Alabama to get planes, I can imagine how it must be for some other schools," said Mr. Tatum.

He also pointed out that "Alabama is always going to go first class, and that costs money. However, we've had a little break that's a surprising result of our football success. It's something of a superstition, I guess, but when we win a game we try to do everything the same the next time we play. We've won so much over the years that we stay in the same hotels and motels year after year and some of them are getting older now. However, even at that, we're paying about one and a half times for rooms this year that we did in 1977. Two years ago Coach Bryant had a doorknob come off in one of these hotels and was locked in his room for a few minutes, but we won there and we're going back.

"And it's the same story in every area of the department—equipment, supplies, everything is costing much more."

Generally speaking, Mr. Tatum is the first member of the Alabama "team" to get to the site of an away game, going in the day before the coaches and players arrive. While most of the arrangements are made by letter and telephone months in advance of the arrival of the Crimson Tide for an away game, Mr. Tatum is on the scene to make sure everything runs smoothly when the team comes in. "The first thing I check is the rooms at the motel to make sure that they have the correct number of rooms and that each player room has two large beds. We go over the meal schedule and menu, the set up of the meeting rooms and any special problems. I then double check the bus company to make sure that the buses will be at the correct place at the correct time, and that time is at least 30 minutes ahead of when the plane is due in. I then check with the airline handling the charter to have them bring the plane into a freight area so that the team doesn't have to go

through the passenger gates and terminal," said Mr. Tatum.

Sounds simple enough, but problems sometimes crop up. "We've had bus companies send out older buses that weren't large enough. We've had them go to the wrong motel to pick a team up to go to practice. Once or twice the buses have gotten tied up in traffic and been late to take the team to the game, although we leave in plenty of time to allow for that contingency. Once we even had one of the bus drivers suffer a heart attack just before the plane arrived. But," said Mr. Tatum, "I guess all-in-all it's a pretty routine procedure now."

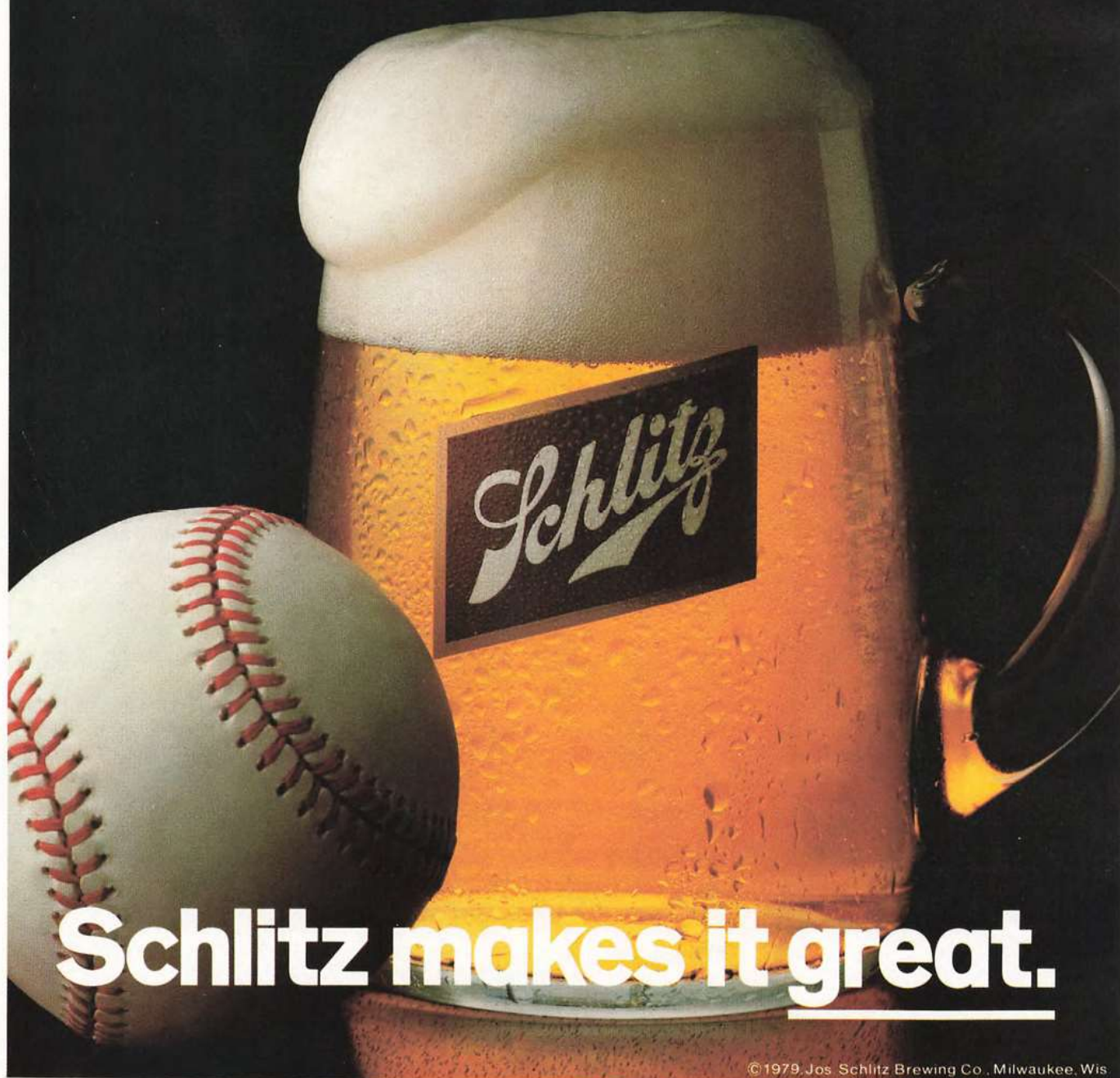
Alabama players have an easy time of it getting into their motel rooms. "I don't know how we happened to come up with this, but is sure has worked out well," noted Mr. Tatum. "We used to wait until the team got to the motel and then pass out keys in the lobby, which was as confusing as you might think it would be. Now I have the keys in envelopes with me when the plane arrives. I get on the first bus while the team is loading up and start calling out names and passing out keys to the players on that bus. Then just before we pull out I go to the second bus and hand out the keys to the players there. Therefore, when we reach the motel all the players have to do is go to their rooms."

And then? "I go straight to my room when we reach the motel and sit by my phone," said Mr. Tatum. "I know if there are any problems I'm going to get called. Sometimes there are, but usually there aren't and that's the way we want it."

One of the problems of travel is knowing which players will make the trip, a large travel party generally on non-conference games, but limited to 60 men on Southeastern Conference games. Mr. Tatum usually departs for the road games on Thursday and Coach Bryant doesn't make the final travel list until Thursday night. Mr. Tatum explains that "Coach Bryant, Coach Goostree (trainer Jim) and I

Tickets for sale! They don't last long at Alabama. Mrs. Jewel Gaston gives this Bama fan her tickets as Ms. Alice Sandlin watches.

Relief ace.



Schlitz makes it great.

get together at some time Thursday and make a tentative list. On Friday morning I check back with Coach Bryant's office to get the final list. It's proof of the consistency of Coach Bryant's operation that there are almost never more than one or two changes, sometimes none."

Mr. Tatum came to the athletics department in 1973, but had been a successful businessman for many years before joining the University family in 1962. A graduate of the University with a BS degree in Commerce and Business Administration in 1941, he served in the Navy in World War II. After selling his automobile dealership in Tuscaloosa he joined the University and in 1963 was promoted assistant to the comptroller. In 1966 he was named assistant comptroller for University budgets and in 1970 was named treasurer of the University.

His business background was no doubt a help when a motel manager tried to drive a hard bargain several years ago. The manager insisted the Alabama rooms bill would be for two nights lodging, despite the fact the team would be gone from the motel for good before 5 p.m. Saturday. "All right," said Mr. Tatum, "that's not the way we've operated in the past, but if that's what you want we'll do it." He then asked if he could borrow a large basket. "Sure," said the manager, "but what for?"

"Well if we're going to pay for these rooms for Saturday night I want to have the keys so that I can give them to any Alabama fans who may not have been able to get rooms," explained Mr. Tatum. It's common practice for motels to make team rooms available to others after a team has checked out of them. That was true in this case and the manager promptly withdrew his insistence that Alabama pay for Saturday night lodging.

Nevertheless, when most Alabama people think of Mr. Tatum they think of tickets. In addition to himself, the ticket office is staffed by Alice Sandlin, Patsy Stewart, Jewel Gaston, Peggy Conyers and Sharon Keeton fulltime and a number of parttime workers at peak seasons.

"We have to depend on our good folks to sell out most of our games," points out Mr. Tatum. "That's a mighty big stadium in Birmingham, some 76,000. Last year we played to four sellouts there, not counting the Auburn game, and in those other four games — Nebraska, Southern Cal, LSU and Mississippi State — the visitors accounted for only about 17,000 of the some 300,000 tickets dispersed."

Alabama plays to mostly sellouts, of course, and while that's a good problem,



Alabama Athletics Business Manager C. D. Tatum's desk reflects a busy operation.

CRIMSON GALLERY

Intensity

There's no mistaking the intensity on the faces of the Alabama defenders as they surround a downed opposing ball carrier. Crimson Tide defenders are famed for their pursuit of the football with the result that there is almost always a crowd of Bama players around the opposing man when he goes down.





STEVE WHITMAN

OUT OF THE SPOTLIGHT

by Hank Brownstone

In the opinion of Steve Whitman, spotlights are for Hollywood heroes, rock stars, Heisman Trophy winners and all others who receive hefty ego boosts when reading their names in headlines.

As for himself, the satisfaction associated with dishing out punishment to opposing football players will do just fine.

Then again, it helps to know the most important man in the University of Alabama football family thinks highly of his abilities as a fullback.

"Steve Whitman might be the most underrated player in the Southeastern Conference," said Coach Paul "Bear" Bryant. "He is certainly the most underrated player on our team.

"I think Steve is a fine player. He's strong, he's tough, he's big and he's dedicated. Like the rest of our backs this season, his basic drawback is speed. He's about a step short.

"But he plays his position well and it's important to us. If you don't have a solid fullback, you can't run the wishbone. You have to make the five defensive linemen play the fullback so you can get the outside options. Most teams respect Steve enough to do that."

Whitman, a 6-foot-3, 231-pound senior with manly looks and boyish charm, smiles when contemplating those words.

Then he reacts in humble shyness.

"I don't feel I'm underrated," Whitman said after rushing for 63 yards and a touchdown on 11 carries in a 30-6 opening game victory over Georgia Tech. "In our conference, there are so many fast, super backs that I get lost in the crowd. While they make headlines running, I keep my job by blocking.

"I'm very much aware that people think there are better fullbacks around, even on

our team, but I also know I'm a capable player. In our offense, blocking is my primary responsibility. I take pride in it.

"Long runs for touchdown are fine (he went 11 yards for one against Georgia Tech), but a hard knock-down block really fires me up. It may sound nasty, but hurting somebody a little bit with a good block gives me a lot of pleasure."

Whitman graded a sizzling 81 percent blocking against Georgia Tech, 80 percent overall.

"Steve had a dynamite game, which is becoming a habit," said George "Shorty" White, Alabama assistant coach in charge of running backs. "He is an intense player."

Thus surfaces an acceptable explanation for a nickname that followed Whitman to Alabama from Birmingham Huffman High School.

Animal?

"I guess that's a good description of me," Whitman said, eyes glowing and smile broadening. "But I sure hope it has nothing to do with looks. You have to be like an animal during games. You have to sacrifice your body for the good of the team. When you go on the field, you have to forget everything else and give every play every ounce of energy you can muster.

"If you're not a little mean, you'll hurt a little more than your opponent."

Whitman not only talks a rough game, he plays one. While his name will not be uttered in the same breath with Jim Brown, Jim Taylor, Earl Campbell or Bronco Nagurski, he has established himself as an equal to former Crimson Tide wishbone fullbacks Johnny Davis, Ellis Beck, Steve Bisceglia and Calvin Culliver.

His position — more pow-pow-pow

than wow-wow-wow — dictates that he receives licks more frequently than he gives. While his backfield teammates, the halfbacks, are usually heavily escorted over tackle or seen dashing relatively carefree around end, he trudges toward the heart of enemy defenses as if attempting to sprint through knee-deep mud.

"It can be wild some days," Whitman said, "which makes me more thankful for (center) Dwight Stephenson and our other offensive linemen. Coach Bryant has said the wishbone starts with the fullback and the center. If a fullback can get three or four yards a carry, it opens things up.

"It gets crowded in the middle. Sometimes I'll run through there and bodies will be all over the place. I step on their people, jump over our people and keep running as hard as I can."

Last year, Whitman stepped into shoes left by Davis, an All-American now with the Tampa Bay Bucs, and did not lack much filling them. He carried the ball 80 times for 364 yards, 4.6 yards per carry, blocked like a tank and made few mental errors.

In short, it was a splendid effort by a young man who two years ago was trying to make a transition from an unenthused defensive end to fullback.

"Steve was third team defensive end and was obviously playing out of position," said White. "I went to see Coach Bryant and told him I thought Steve could be our starting fullback one day. I had coached against him in high school and remembered what he had done to my Banks High teams. Coach consented to take a look and Steve came over to the offense with a big grin on his face.

"You know the rest of the story. His blocking last year was as good as Davis

was as a senior. If he continues to build on that...I expect him to...he can be the best wishbone fullback ever at Alabama. Steve plays every play like it will be his last. He is big, strong, quick, aggressive and intelligent. His only shortcoming is speed and he makes up for that with mental and physical toughness."

Proof of physical toughness comes from an episode at practice last year. Defensive end Gary DeNiro hit Whitman and tore off a large portion of his upper ear. It took 30 stitches to close the wound.

"I just tore part of my darn ear off," Whitman said as teammates inquired about the injury.

Whitman returned to the huddle and was forced off the field by trainers.

Mental toughness is indicated by the way he takes rude greetings from hostile crowds and uses them as motivational devices.

"When I walk out on the field and hear those fans yelling at us, it lifts me," Whitman said. "When they get on me because I play for Alabama, I can't wait to get to the dressing room and put on my pads."

How does he feel when his obscurity keeps fans from hollering his name?

"That's fine, too," Whitman said. "You don't have to be well known to play this game."

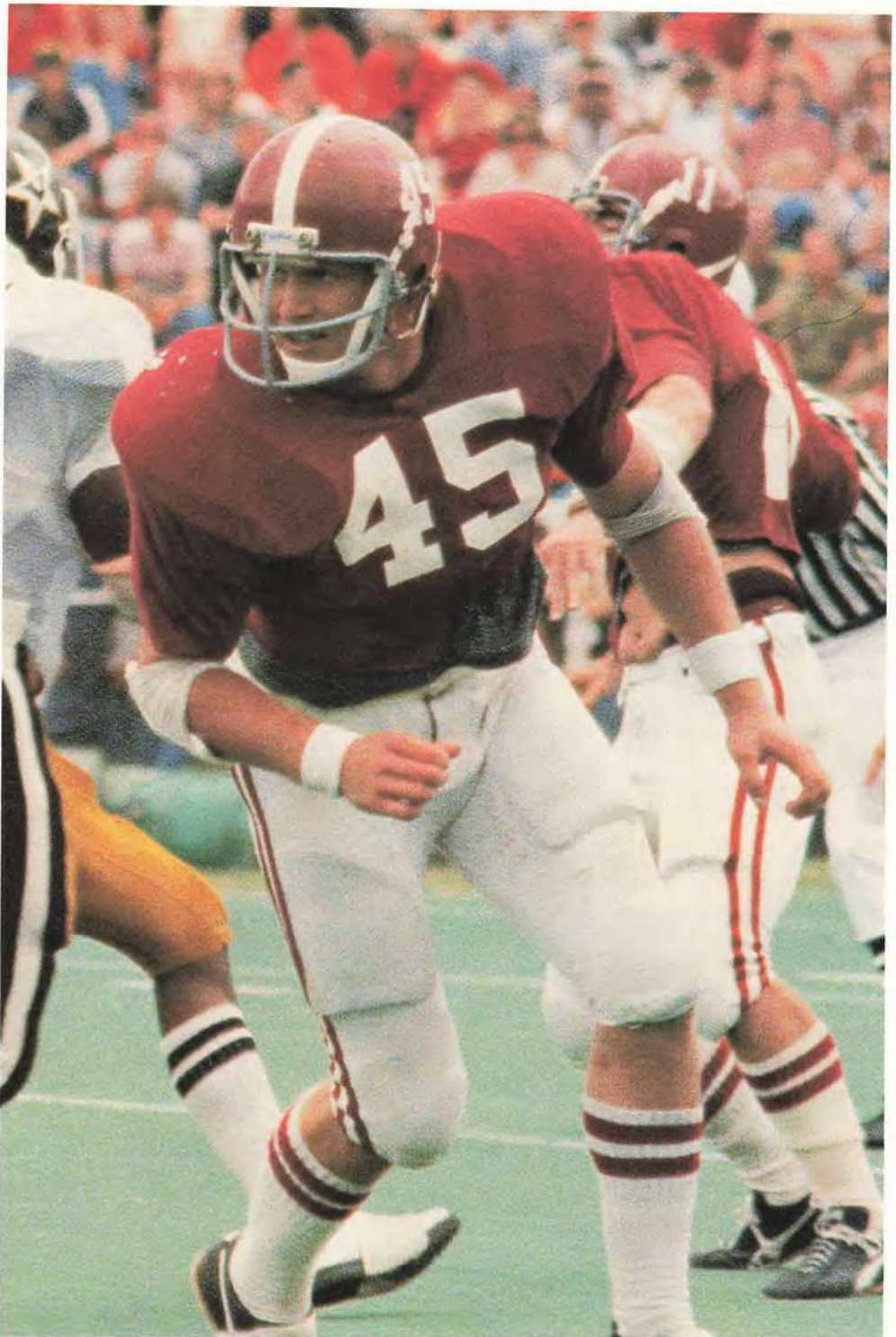
Should Whitman ever become discouraged over the fact his name will probably never become wholesale in conversations about Alabama football, he can find consolation in the realization that he is more familiar to almost everybody than a trumpet player in the Million Dollar Band. There was a time when he favored marching to blocking.

"When I was five or six years old, my dad used to take me to Woodlawn High School games in Birmingham and he stayed mad at me because I wasn't the least bit interested in what was going on," Whitman said. "But when the band took the field at halftime, I perked up. I can remember telling Dad how I was going to play in the band one day and how mad it made him.

"You have to know my family to understand that. They are super football fans, always have been, and the thought of me not playing tore them up."

Parental fears vanished when Steve was six years old and began playing in Magic City pee-wee leagues. A couple of years later, goals were being set and football enthusiasm was running rampant.

Two games, one involving a former Alabama quarterback another featuring possibly the best Crimson Tide team in history, transformed Whitman from an aspiring musician into a young boy harboring a common dream in this state.



After going through the line, even without the football, fullback Steve Whitman's job isn't over. He's looking for someone to block, and he's become a master of the art.

"Dad took me to a pro exhibition game at Legion Field between the New York Jets and Kansas City Chiefs and it was the first time I remember getting excited about football," Whitman said. "Joe Namath quarterbacked the Jets and I went crazy watching him get mobbed for autographs after the game. I didn't even know he played at Alabama, but I got worked up just the same.

"Then in 1966, I watched Alabama beat Nebraska (34-7) on television. I think it was in the Sugar Bowl. All the fans were going crazy and I was, too. Ray Perkins (an end on that Alabama team) was my hero. I'll never forget watching No. 88 catch a bunch of passes that day.

"After that game, I told my dad I wanted to play at Alabama one day. Before that game, I didn't even know col-

lege football existed. But from then on, I worked for the chance to play at Alabama."

Whitman progressed steadily and nicely toward his goal. As a sophomore, Tennessee expressed interest in him and he first realized that he had a dream that could come true.

"I knew if Tennessee thought that much of me that there was a chance Alabama might like me, too, if I kept improving," Whitman said.

Later that season, an Alabama alumnus said he thought the Crimson Tide was impressed.

"I couldn't wait to get home and tell my dad," Whitman said. "I was fired up by the thought. Dad got excited, too. From that day on, I was a more dedicated football player. I could see the chance to make it at Alabama."

By the time Whitman was a senior, every school in the SEC was knocking on his door. Tennessee came harder than most, despite an unusual dose of discouragement.

"I had a little pet bird named Pete and kept him in our living room," Whitman began a crimson-trimmed story. "Well,

one day a Tennessee recruiter was there talking to me when Pete cried out, 'Roll Tide.' I turned about a dozen shades of red, my parents started laughing and the Tennessee recruiter said, 'It looks like I'm wasting my time.'

"From that day on, Pete stayed upstairs when visitors were in the house."

Not once has Alabama regreted inviting Whitman into its glamorous fold, nor has he had second thoughts about accepting the offer. With almost another full season to play, he has had more than a few rewarding experiences. Four stand above the others.

"I've developed a lot of good friends while at Alabama," Whitman said. "When you come here as a freshman, you're not grown up and it's easy to get homesick. You quickly learn to find new friends to help you through those early days and I've found some great ones."

"Playing for Coach Bryant is another highlight. Let's face it, very few people get that chance and a lot of people would like that. There are kids in the state of Washington who would like to play under him."

"Another high point was the national

championship we won last year. I've always wanted to be the best at whatever I do and that meant I made it. Sharing something like that with teammates was a thrill.

"But the most important thing that has happened to me since coming to Alabama is my relationship with Jesus Christ. I was saved as a sophomore and my life has been much better since. Finding Jesus Christ is more important than anything I've done."

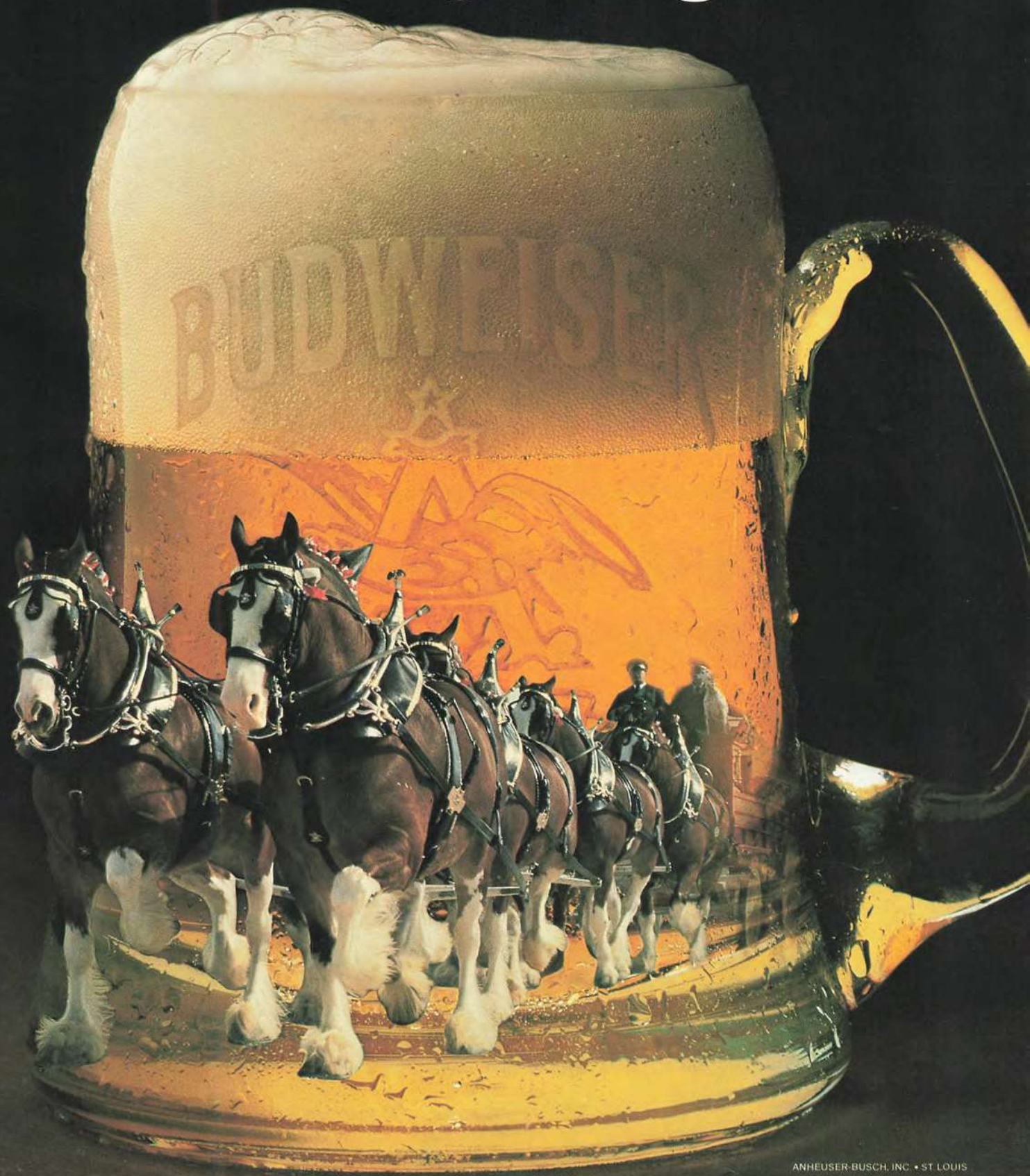
"You know, that long touchdown run lasts for only a couple of minutes. And nobody will remember the victories with I'm 40 years old. But Jesus Christ lasts forever."

"See, I've got a feeling there aren't a lot of football games being played in heaven."★

Bama fullback Steve Whitman strains for that extra yardage.



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WICHITA STATE

by Kirk McNair

With the approach of the Wichita State game, one can't help but think of 1974 when Florida State came into Tuscaloosa with the nation's longest losing streak to play the Crimson Tide with the nation's longest winning streak. The final result, as almost every Bama fan knows, was an 8-7 Alabama win on the strength of a Bucky Berrey field goal in the final 36 seconds.

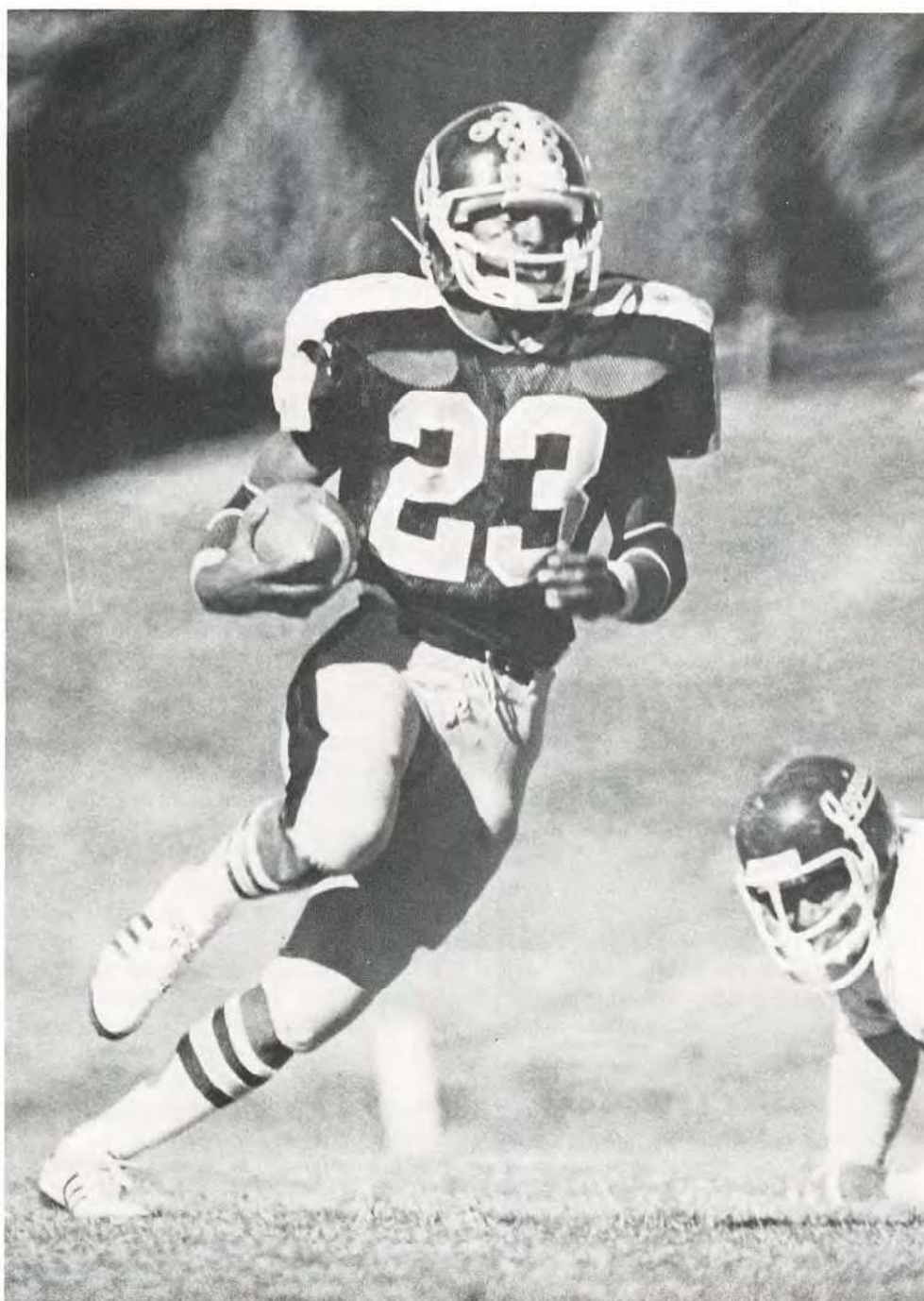
From the time the Wichita State game was announced it has been something of a smear on the Alabama schedule, prompting national columnists and commentators to discuss the "weak" Bama slate of 1979.

At the time that Wichita State replaced SMU on the Alabama schedule, Jimmy Wright, who had played quarterback for Coach Bryant at Texas A&M, was the Wichita State coach. Since then he has been replaced by Jeff Jeffries, who had previously rebuilt South Carolina State to the 1976 National Black Championship.

Wichita State had an off week before playing Alabama and probably needed it after opening the season with losses to New Mexico State, Indiana State, Oklahoma State and Memphis State.

Wichita State's nickname is "The Shockers," which goes back to the early days of the university when most of the students earned money by shocking wheat. If Wichita State can muster the manpower to defeat Alabama they will have truly earned their nickname. Of course, Coach Bryant knows that anything can happen in football. The biggest job that he and his assistants will have this week could be in convincing Bama players of that fact.

Wichita State was 4-7 last year and



Mickey Collins (23) has been the leading rusher for Wichita State the past two years. The junior has been slowed somewhat this year by a hip pointer.

then hard hit by graduation. Nevertheless, the word out of WSU before the season began was that expectations were higher than might reasonably be expected. The recruiting class was considered the best in a number of years; junior college transfers and walkons were impressive in spring training; and All-Missouri Valley Conference running back Mickey Collins was returning to lead a talented running back corps.

The Wichita State depth chart has been shifting regularly, partly because of injuries and partly because freshmen are being inserted into key positions.

Wichita State runs a veer offense, although from time-to-time the Shockers can be expected to go to a Slot-I to take advantage of the running of Mickey Collins.

Any offense starts with the quarterback. Wichita State came into this season with no quarterback with any game experience, although Coach Jeffries was pleased with the talent available. Terry George, a walk-on last spring who won a scholarship, is No. 1. He is backed up by Prince McJunkins and Mike Bocella, both freshmen, and Willie Joe Phillips. Jim Goodman was in the quarterback picture until being suspended from the team.

Mickey Collins is the class of the running backs and the running backs are the strength of Wichita State, but Collins has missed much of this season with a hip pointer (although he's expected to be at full strength and starting against Bama). Junior college transfer B.J. Moore is the No. 1 fullback. If Mickey Collins is not ready to go against the Tide, the starter will be Herbert Collins, Mickey's freshman brother. Mike Green, Tony Newry (who is back after having shoulder surgery last year) and Cecil Suber all have experience in the backfield and will see plenty of action.

Wichita State admits to having receivers who aren't speed burners, but they are described as aggressive blockers with good hands. The No. 1 split end is Max Colvin, who is a pretty good runner once he gets the ball, and he's backed by Ron Culwell, who does an excellent job of getting to the football. Mike Berendes, who has the same strength as Culwell, starts at flanker with Steve Hammond (watch him on the end-around) behind him.

There was little doubt that Mark Wolgamott would be the starting tight end for Wichita State this year. He has good hands and good blocking ability. However, the question was who would play behind Wolgamott. A freshman, Kurt Vestman, is No. 2.

The offensive line was hit hard by in-



juries early in the season, but is expected to be at or near full strength for the Alabama game. The tackles are Jerry Hodges (6-6, 245) and Robert Lang (6-2, 230); the guards are Mark Rawlings (6-3, 256) and Kent Whittaker (6-3, 230) and the center is David White (6-1, 230); No. 2 tackles are Dave Absher (6-6, 245) and Mark McCoy (6-5, 230), guards Jay Hull (6-2, 220) and David Sage (6-4, 215) or Ron Banks (6-5, 235) and center is Hull or Steve Jackson (6-3, 235-pound freshman).

All kicking is handled by senior Joe Williams, who last year tied the NCAA record with a 67-yard field goal and who averaged 37 yards per kick on his 14 field goals. Wichita State had hoped that a punter would step forward, but as of now Williams is also handling punting chores. He is backed by freshman Mike Melnick.

Wichita State uses the same defensive alignment as Alabama, a five-man front with two linebackers but with the ends often dropping back to play as outside linebackers.

The linebacking corps is led by Brian Anderson, who was 1978 Missouri Valley Conference Defensive Player of the Year, although Anderson had to recover from an off-season injury prior to this year. Chris White is the other starter. The backup men make this position comparable to the running back situation with Tim Dorian, Mike Johnson (both freshmen) and Danny Jones (JC transfer) all seeing plenty of playing time.

Defensive end is another deep position

for Wichita State. Speedy Alan Davis is starting on one side, Brent Smith (JC transfer) on the other. The backup men are Mike Kriwiel and Jeff Cortese. Freshman Elwyn Holt had moved ahead of Cortese, but Holt suffered a broken leg. He is expected back for the Alabama game.

The tackles are Rodney Woods (6-4, 225) and Derwin Cantley (6-2, 240), backed by Noel Rivers (6-1, 240 and a JC transfer) and Lonnie Kennell (6-2, 265 and a freshman).

A freshman, Darrin Mills (6-0, 225) has earned the starting job at noseguard, where he is backed by 5-11, 210-pound Gerald Murphy.

The secondary was considered something less than a strong point for Wichita State prior to the season and when top backup man Bruce Ford quit the team it could have been worse. Cliff Linson is the only returning starter in the secondary, but freshman Billy Wilson has come on to earn the other starting job at defensive halfback. They are backed up by Gary Bell and Jeff Townsend. Strong safety is Bryan Kendall, backed by Kelvin Middleton, and free safety is Terry Williams, backed by Chris Chavanu.

Alabama will be trying to extend a 45-game winning streak in Bryant-Denny Stadium when Wichita State arrives. Bama's overall record in Tuscaloosa under Coach Bryant is 60-1 — and you have to wonder if that won't be pretty close to the final score Saturday.

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1979 Cumulative Statistics

	BAMA	WSU							
TEAM OFFENSE			INDIVIDUAL OFFENSE						
Rushes attempted	230	204	Rushing	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	Long	
Yards gained	1274	818	(BAMA) Shealy	30	220	7.3	3	64	
Yards lost	60	263	(BAMA) Ogilvie	32	165	5.1	3	18	
Net yards gained	1214	555	(BAMA) Whitman	27	132	4.9	2	13	
Avg. gain per rush	5.3	2.7	(BAMA) Jacobs	21	130	6.2	0	51	
Touchdowns	17	3	(WSU) Green	34	145	4.3	1	23	
			(WSU)						
Passes attempted	35	56	McJunkins	38	126	3.3	0	61	
Passes completed	19	17	(WSU) H. Collins	21	82	3.9	1	11	
Passes intercepted	2	4							
Percentage	.543	.303	Passing	PA	PC	PI	YDS	%	TD
Total yards	267	255	(BAMA) Shealy	21	14	1	194	.667	0
Touchdowns	0	2	(BAMA) Jacobs	11	4	1	60	.354	0
			(WSU)						
Passes caught	19	17	McJunkins	27	9	0	180	.333	1
Total yards	267	255	(WSU) George	27	7	4	69	.269	1
Avg. gain per catch	14.0	15.0							
Touchdowns	0	2	Receiving	No.	Yds.		Avg.	TD	
TEAM DEFENSE			(BAMA) Pugh	9	140		15.5	0	
Rushes attempted	86	235	(BAMA) Clark	3	59		19.6	0	
Yards gained	311	1062	(BAMA) Travis	2	25		12.5	0	
Yards lost	74	130	(WSU) Hobson	4	44		11.0	0	
Net yards gained	237	932	(WSU) Colvin	4	43		10.8	1	
Touchdowns	0	6							
			INDIVIDUAL DEFENSE						
Passes attempted	76	82	Tackles	Solo	Assisted	Total			
Passes completed	35	40	(BAMA) Boyd	14	8	22			
Passes intercepted	11	5	(BAMA) Braggs	13	2	15			
Percentage	.460	.488	(BAMA) Hamilton	5	6	11			
Total yards	327	551	(BAMA) Junior	9	2	11			
Touchdowns	1	4	(BAMA) R. Jones	7	4	11			
PUNTING			(WSU) White	16	25	41			
Number	12	30	(WSU) Anderson	13	27	40			
Yards	455	1157	(WSU) Woods	14	20	34			
Avg.	37.9	38.6	(WSU) Smith	14	16	30			
Longest	48	58							
FUMBLES/LOST			Interceptions	No.	Yds.		Avg.	TD	
	8/4	16/6	(BAMA) R. Jones	2	17		8.5	0	
PENALTIES/ YARDS			(BAMA) McNeal	2	4		2.0	0	
	10/78	23/196	(BAMA) B. Smith	2	0		0.0	0	
			(BAMA) Junior	1	59		59.0	1	
			(BAMA) 4 others	4	16		4.0	0	
			(WSU) Wilson	3	148		49.3	0	
			(WSU) 2 others	2	30		15.0	0	

THE GREATEST END EVER

by Mike Bolton

In Tuscaloosa, Alabama, he was just half of Howell to Hutson. In Green Bay, Wisconsin, he was known as the man with the magnetic mitts.

He is known now by most who saw him as the greatest end, college or professional, who ever played.

But, things did not always go so well for Don Hutson.

The high school football season of 1929 found Pine Bluff (Ark.) High's Hutson sitting on the bench for the third consecutive year. The boy could play baseball with the best of them, his high school coach said, but he just didn't have what it took to play football.

As a senior in 1930, he made the first string as end, but he wasn't a standout. Just average.

Alabama baseball was big in the 30s and Hutson came to the Capstone on a partial scholarship to take a crack at one of the outfield spots. He also took a shot at walking on in football.

Alabama end coach Red Drew remembered Hutson as a stringy, 160-pounder who appeared to lack in hustle. The boy, many thought, hardly stood a chance of making the team with ends like Paul Bryant, Ralph Gandy and Jimmy Walker in front of him. Hutson knew he could make it.

Hutson was tearing up the baseball field for three seasons, but didn't play any football of note until 1934. It was then Don Hutson and Dixie Howell began their show that would delight Crimson Tide fans to no end.

In the season's fourth game against Tennessee Howell threw 33 yards to Hutson to tie the score and Hutson later scored the winning touchdown on an end-around. Against Kentucky a 22-yarder from Howell to Hutson set up one score and Hutson got another on a 20-yard end-around. Alabama won 34-14.

Against Clemson Hutson helped drub



"The greatest end ever," Don Hutson, still holds several NFL records.

the visitors 40-0 with three TD passes from Howell. In a 40-0 thrashing of Georgia Tech, Howell to Hutson struck for three touchdowns and Hutson added another on a 40-yard end-around.

Drew was once asked how the Alabama coaches had overlooked such a talent as Hutson.

"I guess the main reason was that he played so effortlessly and with such grace, the coaches thought he was always loafing," Drew explained the embarrassing question. "It turned out he could catch any ball thrown near him. He had big hands and was relaxed at all times. He was hard to notice."

Although he never kicked in high school or college, Hutson became one of pro football's greatest kickers. He attributes that partially to Paul "Bear" Bryant.

Bryant, Hutson and Tilden Cambell were all Arkansas boys and naturally struck up friendships at the University. The trio, along with Drew, would go out to practice early and wager ice cream on field goal kicking.

"I was the poorest kicker of the four and I always ended up buying all the ice cream after practice," Hutson said. "In an effort to save money I had to learn the fine art of place kicking."

Drew's favorite story about Hutson was how he spent his Spring afternoons.

"He was a great competitor," he said. "During the Spring when we had baseball and track going on, Hutson would dress out for the track meets and take his baseball uniform out with him. He would compete in the dashes and then go play baseball without warming up or taking batting practice."

The two years Hutson saw real action at Alabama saw the teams go 7-1-1 and 10-0-0, win two conference championships, win a '34 Rose Bowl over Stanford, and Hutson named to numerous All-America teams.

"He was the greatest player I ever coached," Drew said years later. "He looked like anything but an end when he came to Alabama and we were afraid baseball was his best sport. To tell you the truth, we weren't much interested in him."

"While at Alabama Hutson weighed 175 at the most, but due to his speed and ability to catch the ball he became one of our great receivers. His run was very deceiving, and with his great bursts of speed he could fake a defender off and leave him. That speed plus the fact he could catch almost any ball thrown near him made him great.

"In windsprints every day after practice he caught the coaches' attention because



Don Hutson has received numerous awards in recognition of his great football career.

of the way he ran. He looked slow and like he wasn't giving it everything he had.

"We made a mistake."

Drew said Hutson's greatest performance was in the '34 Rose Bowl.

"That was his greatest day," Drew said. "He caught six passes for 165 yards and two of those were touchdowns. The Howell-to-Hutson combination accounted for 211 yards against one of the greatest Stanford teams of all times."

Hutson went out of college football with a bang as every major all-America team had his name on it, but his football days were anything but over.

The Green Bay packers picked up Hutson for the then astronomical sum of \$300 a game, a figure so high the Packers paid him in two checks each week to avoid embarrassment. He was worth every penny of it.

In 11 seasons with Green Bay, Hutson rewrote the record books. Now, Hutson still holds 11 records and seven of those were league records at one time. There are 11 separate divisions in the scoring department and as of 1975 Hutson held all of them for the Packers and four of those were league records.

Hutson made the NFL All-Star teams nine of his 11 years and was named to pro football's All-Time team. He also had a big hand in Green Bay winning two world championships while he was there. He was also the pro's MVP in '41 and '42.

After he hung up his cleats he became a super-successful businessman in Racine, Wis. He owned the largest car dealership in Wisconsin, was on the board of directors of the bank and owned a bowling alley. Hutson became a millionaire.

Hutson pointed out that he used football as a stepping stone into a successful life.

"I loved football," he recalled in his soft, still detectable Arkansas drawl. "But all my life I wanted to be in business for myself and I used football for that goal."

The man who caught 489 passes for 8,010 yards in 11 pro years didn't see much football after his retirement.

"There were always sales conferences, a directors' meeting or a community chore that needed attended to."

Hutson could never seem to escape success and honors. He was inducted into the National Football Hall of Fame in 1953. The Arkansas Hall-of-Fame made him a member as did the Alabama-Hall-of-Fame. He was also named to the Helms Foundation Hall-Of-Fame.

He received a special honor in 1959 when Sports Illustrated commemorated its silver anniversary by naming him the end on its silver anniversary issue and in 1973 he won the prestigious Pat Trammell Award from the University — the highest honor an athlete can earn at Alabama.

Although honors by the thousands poured in to Hutson, someone once joked that his biggest honor was overshadowing the legendary Paul "Bear" Bryant, a feat no one else accomplishes. Bryant, who has achieved greatness on the gridiron himself, had to take a back seat to Hutson in his college days and became known simply as "the other end."

Hutson and his family now split time between living in Racine and Palm Beach Calif.★

BAMA SCORECARD

Tide Swimming Signees

Alabama head swimming team coach Don Gambrill has added 13 freshmen and two transfer students to the Crimson Tide's national powerhouse team. The newcomers are headed by Gregory Higginson of Cincinnati, who recently finished fourth in the AAU Nationals and fifth as a member of the United States team in the World Student Games in the 100-meter breaststroke. Also entering the Tide waters with stellar credentials are Keith Clinton (Westchester, Pa.), Brendan McCarthy (Charlottesville, Va.), Robert Romoska (Oak Park, Ill.) and John Ravenhall (Cincinnati). Clinton was the 1979 Middle Atlantic Champion in the 100 and 200-meter butterfly. Middle distance freestylers McCarthy and Romoska both have gained fame in their events. McCarthy was the 1978-79 Eastern Interscholastic swimming champion in the 200-yard freestyle, while Romoska earned the 1977 National Junior Olympic championship in the 400 and 1500-meter freestyle. Ravenhall won the Ohio State High School championship in the 500-meter freestyle (1978) and the 200-meter individual medley (1979).

Alabama also went close to home to get four of the state's top prep competitors. Birmingham natives Scott Hinkle (sprint freestyle), Wylee Orton (individual medley and butterfly) and Scott Reeder (individual medley and backstroke) and Mobilian Jerry Silverstein (sprint freestyle) will all add strength to the Bama team.

Other incoming freshmen are Danish champion in the 100 and 200 butterfly and 200 individual medley Jens Anderson, Prep All-American Kirk Hale of Ocean Springs, Md. (sprint freestyle and butterfly), Brad Jensen of Racine, Wisc. (middle and distance freestyle) and Rory Lewis of Washington, D.C. (sprint freestyle).

The transfers are junior Chuck Smith of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. (backstroke and middle distance freestyle) and sophomore Brian Smith of Boulder, Colo. (backstroke and middle distance freestyle).

On U.S. Handball Team

Alabama women's basketball player Karen Hutton of Pulaski, Tenn. is one of 14 women named to the United States Junior National Team handball squad. After two try-out periods Ms. Hutton was notified that she will be making the 13-day trip to Yugoslavia for the World Games Oct. 12-24. Members of this team are expected to provide the nucleus of the United States team in the 1984 Olympics.

Deller in Europe

Former University of Alabama tennis star Bobby Deller (1975-78), who served as an assistant coach with the Tide last spring, is now in Europe playing on the professional circuit. Deller spent the summer in Tuscaloosa as teaching professional at a country club. His tentative plans include being in Tuscaloosa again next spring to help Bama head coach Armi Neely with the Tide squad.



Former Tide tennis star Bobby Deller is now in Europe playing on the European circuit.

it does present problems. Everyone can't get tickets to every game (particularly the Auburn game, where the two teams split Legion Field each year, and to road games, where Alabama gets a specified number of tickets by contract and where the Alabama game is usually the opponent's biggest game of the year).

"The Alumni priority is determined by the Alumni office and the Park Board also has tickets for the Birmingham games other than the Auburn game," points out Mr. Tatum. "After we conclude our priority sale we make tickets available on an unlimited basis to the public. This year we had tickets available on that basis to all home games except the Auburn game and to the Georgia Tech game."

Ticket operations also begin in late winter prior to the next season. "As soon as the game sites, game times and ticket prices (on away games) have been determined we can order the tickets and the order blanks. Prior to that we begin typing mailing labels. We try to mail orders the last week in March. By the first week in April we've already had a sizeable return."

Sometimes there are unexpected problems. "One year Southern Cal changed the price of the tickets on the Alabama game after we had printed our order blanks," remembers Mr. Tatum. "We had to go back and stick on a new price by hand. Another problem we've encountered from time is a school being late in sending us tickets to the game at their stadium, which delays us filling our orders. Several times I have driven to a school to pick up the tickets in order to save another day's delay."

Those Alabama tickets, which are worth at least a ten dollar bill (sometimes more in Alabama, where scalping is legal) cost a pretty penny to print, too, sometimes more than \$20,000. Several years ago the Alabama ticket office found a sponsor to pay for the printing in exchange for an ad on the back of the ticket (still leaving room for a stadium diagram). "Since we started doing it, now you see many schools picking up the idea," notes Mr. Tatum.

Mr. Tatum, 59, is an early riser, taking a three-mile walk most mornings and still being among the first to arrive at his Memorial Coliseum office. He's also an outstanding golfer, despite the fact that time doesn't permit him to work on his game during the fall and winter months.

He is married to the former Margaret Ella Finnell of Tuscaloosa and they have sons David and Edward and daughter Alice and two grandchildren.★

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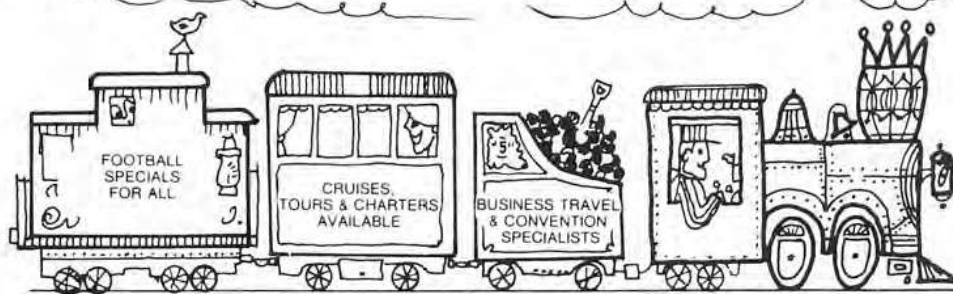
Oct. 12-13 Alabama vs. Florida, Gainesville, from \$135 day trip, (air and transfers)

Nov. 8-11 Alabama vs. LSU, from \$175. (2 or 3 nights in New Orleans, charter bus to game from French Quarter and round trip air).

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AROUND THE LEAGUE

DATE	ALABAMA	AUBURN	FLORIDA	GEORGIA	KENTUCKY
Sept. 8	30 at Georgia Tech 6				
Sept. 15		26 KANSAS STATE 18	10 at Houston 14	21 WAKE FOREST 22	14 MIAMI (OH.) 15
Sept. 22	45 BAYLOR (R)* 0	31 S. MISS 9	7 GEORGIA TECH 7	7 at Clemson 12	10 at Indiana 18
Sept. 29	66 at Vanderbilt 3	17 at Tennessee 35	10 at Miss. State 24	20 S. CAROLINA 27	14 MARYLAND 7
Oct. 6	WICHITA STATE (T)	N.C. STATE	at LSU	at Ole Miss	at W. Virginia
Oct. 13	at Florida	VANDERBILT	ALABAMA	LSU	OLE MISS
Oct. 20	TENNESSEE (B)	at Georgia Tech		at Vanderbilt	at LSU
Oct. 27	VIRGINIA TECH (T)	at Wake Forest	TULSA	KENTUCKY	at Georgia
Nov. 3	MISSISSIPPI ST. (T)	FLORIDA	at Auburn	VIRGINIA	BOWLING GREEN
Nov. 10	at LSU	MISSISSIPPI ST	GEORGIA (J)**	at Florida (J)**	at Vanderbilt
Nov. 17	MIAMI (T)	at Georgia	KENTUCKY	AUBURN	at Florida
Nov. 24					TENNESSEE
Dec. 1	AUBURN (B)	ALABAMA (B)	at Miami	at Georgia Tech	

DATE	LSU	OLE MISS	MISS. STATE	TENNESSEE	VANDERBILT
Sept. 8			13 MEMPHIS ST. (J)# 14		
Sept. 15	44 at Colorado 0	38 at Memphis St. 34		28 at Boston College 16	13 at Indiana 44
Sept. 22	47 RICE 3	7 MISSOURI (J)c 33	14 at Maryland 35	51 UTAH 18	14 CITADEL 27
Sept. 29	12 SOUTHERN CAL 17	8 S. MISS. (J) 38	24 FLORIDA (J) 10	35 AUBURN 17	3 ALABAMA 66
Oct. 6	FLORIDA	GEORGIA (O)	TENNESSEE (H)	at Miss. St. (M)	at Tulane
Oct. 13	at Georgia	at Kentucky	at Florida St.	GEORGIA TECH	at Auburn
Oct. 20	KENTUCKY	at S. Carolina	MARSHALL (S)	at Alabama (B)	GEORGIA
Oct. 27	FLORIDA STATE	VANDERBILT (O)	S. MISS. (S)		at Ole Miss (O)
Nov. 3	at Ole Miss	LSU (J)	at Alabama (T)	RUTGERS	MEMPHIS ST.
Nov. 10	ALABAMA	at Tulane	at Auburn	NOTRE DAME	KENTUCKY
Nov. 17	MISSISSIPPI ST.	TENNESSEE (J)	at LSU	at Ole Miss (J)	at Air Force
Nov. 24	at Tulane	at Miss. St. (J)	OLE MISS (J)	at Kentucky	
Dec. 1				VANDERBILT	at Tennessee

1979 STANDINGS

	Conference	Overall
Alabama	1-0-0	3-0-0
Tennessee	1-0-0	3-0-0
Mississippi State	1-0-0	1-2-0
LSU	0-0-0	2-1-0
Kentucky	0-0-0	1-2-0
Ole Miss	0-0-0	1-2-0
Georgia	0-0-0	0-3-0
Auburn	0-1-0	2-1-0
Florida	0-1-0	0-2-1
Vanderbilt	0-1-0	0-3-0

*Alabama home games are played at Birmingham or Tuscaloosa

**At Jacksonville

cOle Miss home games are played at Jackson or Oxford

#Mississippi State home games are played at Jackson, Starkville or Memphis



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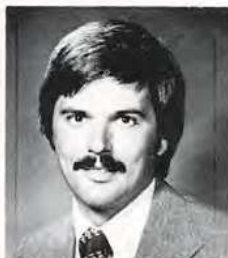
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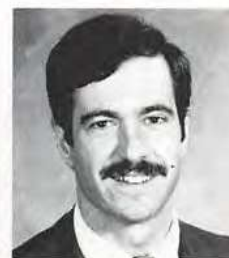
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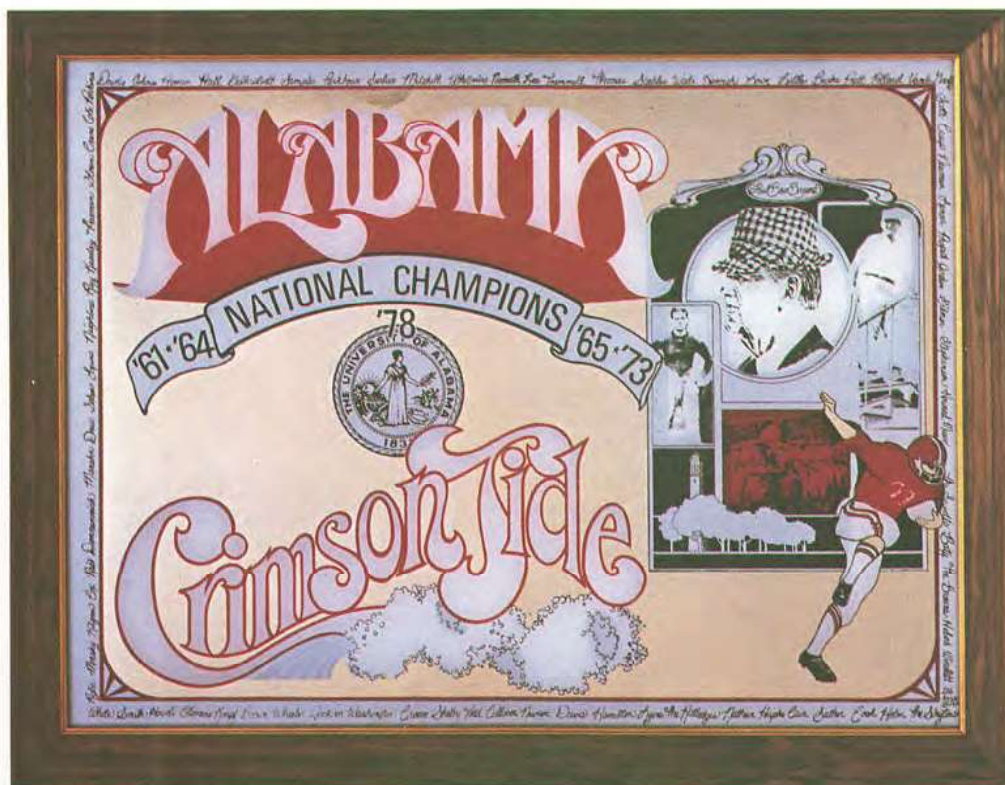
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